Elizabeth West 340 W Bissell Richmond CA 94801

Aug 29th 2018

Via ECFS Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1

Dear FCC,

I implore you to support broadband competition. I am a consumer who relies upon a competitive, smaller ISP provider for both internet and telephone service. The quality is astronomically better than that of the big telecom companies (whom I have had the misfortune to be stuck with in the past), and the price is comparable. I would pay more for this service in order to maintain it, and yet access to the internet is a significant chunk of my monthly expense and I would hope not to have to deal with large increases in cost.

Without competition from smaller providers the big telecom companies are essentially given free rein to lower quality, to raise prices and to do what monopolies generally do: benefit themselves and their stockholders at the expense of consumers.

The capacity we have--as Americans-- to innovate, to serve different constituencies and to improve quality is inherently tied to the opportunity to compete, to have service providers who are striving for our business. Please don't flush that down the toilet.

Thank you.

Elizabeth West